



Acroterion, Guardian Of Ming-dynasty Rooftops



2 800 EUR

Period : 17th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Sandstone

Width : 19 cm

Height : 40 cm

Depth : 9 cm

Description

Of course. Here is a version that can be used directly on Proantic, incorporating the dimensions and exercising caution regarding the geographical attribution. Glazed sandstone acroterion - Guardian spirit and Taotie mask - China, Ming Dynasty A rare acroterion, or architectural roof element, made of polychrome glazed sandstone, depicting a guardian spirit seated atop an imposing zoomorphic mask reminiscent of the Taotie. The figure is depicted in full face, in a solemn pose, with his hands clasped in front of him. He wears an elaborate headdress and a garment with wide sleeves. The modeling of the face, which is particularly expressive, retains a beautiful softness despite the figure's protective function. The lower portion features a remarkable, fantastical mask, powerfully modeled, with large

Dealer

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stylized eyes and adorned with scrollwork. This motif belongs to the symbolic repertoire of protective figures used in traditional Chinese architecture, particularly on the roofs of temples and important buildings. The original polychrome decoration is exceptionally beautiful, combining primarily deep green, ochre yellow, cream, and brown, with a thick glaze exhibiting the irregularities characteristic of an ancient firing. The nature of the stoneware, the palette of glazes, and the sculptural treatment suggest a date during the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), likely the 16th-17th centuries. A origin in southwestern China, possibly Sichuan, is possible but remains to be confirmed. The piece retains on the reverse an old label from a Parisian antique dealer, 20 rue du Cirque, which is of historical interest and which we have deliberately preserved. In good overall condition considering the object's age and architectural function. Visible wear, small chips, and areas where the enamel is missing, all of which contribute to its authenticity and patina. Presented on a modern Plexiglas base. China - Ming Dynasty, 1368-1644 Polychrome glazed stoneware. Height: 40 cm Width: 19 cm Depth: 9 cm